

Template for written feedback on Junior Cycle Business Studies

As each subject in the new Junior Cycle is completed by one full cohort of students, an interim review of the subject specification and related assessments will be carried out by the NCCA.

In order to gain an insight into the experience of enacting the new Junior Cycle in schools, we are inviting feedback from teachers, students, parents and others (e.g. subject associations, initial teacher educators) on the specification for Junior Cycle Business Studies

Four broad questions are shaping this review:

- Does the specification get to the heart of what we value about Business Studies as a subject?
- Does it support the learning aspired to within the Framework for Junior Cycle?
- How well are assessment and reporting capturing this broader picture of student learning?
- What opportunities – and challenges – are schools/teachers/students experiencing as the specification is enacted in practice?

The discussion prompts below go into greater detail in each of these areas. If you wish to provide written feedback on Junior Cycle Business Studies, please use the prompts below and return your written feedback by email to consultations@ncca.ie marked Junior Cycle Business Studies Feedback in the subject line, by Wednesday 11th December 2019

Learning outcomes:

- Do the learning outcomes articulate what we want students to know, understand and be able to do across the three years of their junior cycle? Are there any omissions? Any specific learning outcomes which are unclear/problematic?

Planning and task design:

- What opportunities and challenges have you and your subject department experienced in using learning outcomes to plan for teaching, learning, assessment and reporting?
- Do you have any feedback in relation to clarifying learning intentions; designing units of work and tasks; and using success criteria to have conversations with students about their learning?

Inclusion:

- In your view, how well do the specification and assessments take account of the entire continuum of ability and experience? Opportunities? Challenges?
- Do you have any feedback on integrating the Junior Cycle Business Studies specification with Level 2 learning programmes and/or the JCSP approach?

Examples of student work:

- How have you used the Examples of Student work published on www.curriculumonline.ie? Do you have any observations or suggestions?

Classroom-Based Assessment 1: Business in Action:

- What have been the main successes and challenges so far?
- Have you any feedback on the way *Business in Action* is articulated in the Assessment Guidelines (p8-18)?
- What feedback do you have on the experience of participating in Subject Learning and Assessment Review meetings? (for both CBAs)

Classroom-Based Assessment 2: Presentation:

- What have been the main successes and challenges so far?
- Have you any feedback on the way the *Presentation* is articulated in the Assessment Guidelines (p20-25)?

Assessment Task:

- What have been the main successes and challenges so far in engaging with the Assessment Task?

Final exam:

- What have been the main successes and challenges so far in relation to the final exam?

Reporting:

- Has the new Junior Cycle changed the way you communicate and report on learning and achievement to students and parents?
- What opportunities and challenges have you encountered?

Key skills:

- To what extent does student learning in Junior Cycle Business Studies help students to develop the key skills outlined in the Framework for Junior Cycle?

Transition to Senior Cycle:

- To what extent does student learning in Junior Cycle Business Studies create learners who can transition to the demands of Senior Cycle Accounting, Business and Economics?